



Dr. Calvin Ball

THE CALVIN BALL BULLETIN

Construction Edition
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Phone: 410-313-2001
Email: cball@howardcountymd.gov
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

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Welcome!

Interested in construction projects near you or projects in the pipeline that may impact your travel or commute? This newsletter edition helps me promote transparency within the County about ongoing projects and those on the horizon while providing you with helpful information including project timelines, where available. As these are construction projects and may cause delays, I encourage you to stay tuned, plan ahead, and use caution when driving.

Have questions about a construction project but don't see it inside this edition? Email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov or my Special Assistant Kim Pruim at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov and we'll investigate on your behalf and include details in next month's edition where applicable. As always, I encourage you to share this newsletter with your friends, family and neighbors.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Elkridge Library & DIY Education Center - Charles I. Ecker Campus

This is a project to renovate the HCLS Elkridge Library, dedicated as the Charles I. Ecker Campus. Highlights of the project include: five study rooms, three meeting rooms, vending cafe, business center, increased number of public access computers, expanded collection, a DIY Education Center, Design Institute and a HiTech Classroom. On May 16, 2016, we hosted a groundbreaking ceremony. HCLS anticipates this branch will close June 1, 2016, weather permitting, with a satellite location to be located at Elkridge ES to continue serving the residents of Elkridge and the northeastern corridor of the County. The branch is scheduled to reopen in **December 2017**, weather permitting.

Read more



I-70 Resurfacing

SHA will begin a months-long \$3.2 million highway resurfacing project on Interstate 70 East beginning this **Sunday, May 22, 2016**. The project will include resurfacing and replacement of guardrails along I-70 along the six miles of pavement between Marriottsville Road and the

Baltimore County line. Motorists should expect single- and double-lane closures between 7pm and 5am each day during construction.

Lanes will not be closed over Memorial Day weekend. As approximately 97,000 vehicles use this stretch of I-70 every day, drivers are asked to plan their commute accordingly, plan for more travel time, and drive slowly through the construction zone which will be clearly marked by traffic cones, signs and barrels. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed in **Fall 2016**.

Chrysalis Amphitheater in Downtown Columbia



As the first of the seven-phase development plan by the Inner Arbor Trust, the Chrysalis Amphitheater will be a shell-shaped outdoor facility east of Merriweather Post Pavilion. The capacity is 400 people with two stages: the Alpha Stage proscenium for larger productions and the Beta Stage proscenium with a thrust stage for smaller events. Construction is ongoing. The foundation will be complete in **May 2016**. Steel will begin to be erected in **late May 2016** with the aluminum skin to commence in July 2016. This project is anticipated to be complete in **December 2016**.

[Read More](#)

Rt 1 Resurfacing

Drivers should expect night-time lane closures between 8pm-5am as SHA begins to resurface part of Rt 1. The resurfacing will be done on one mile of Rt 1 between Assateague Dr, just south of Route 175 and Gatewood Drive in Jessup. SHA anticipates the resurfacing to be complete by **end of June 2016**, weather permitting.

Construction will remove the top layer of asphalt, pave, then re-stripe the area, while crews also upgrade the guard rail along the corridor. The strip was last resurfaced in 1988. Flaggers, cones, and barrels will be used to guide drivers through the construction.

Merriweather Post Pavilion Renovation

The pavilion has not undergone any major renovations since its construction in 1967; however, the DT Master Plan calls for a multi-phase renovation and modernization to ensure the pavilion's viability for the next five decades. Highlights include improvements to the stage house, backstage facilities, seating, and fan-services plazas (restroom, concessions, box offices).

As of April 2016, Phase I of the project (West Plaza), which involved an entirely new set of buildings including restrooms, concessions and a box office is complete. The building designs in the West Plaza took cues from the existing signature pavilion roof and this design will carryover into future phases. Moreover, the rebuilt stage house will incorporate a cedar facade similar to the cedar accents on these buildings.



Phase II is well underway and includes the complete replacement of the stage house, which will be significantly taller than the original, allowing the venue to host bigger and more diverse productions with expanded overhead capacity for bigger sets and lighting rigs. It will also include a significantly improved back of house building with state of the art facilities to ensure the highest quality of performances and performers at the venue. The stage house is expected to be complete in Spring 2016 with Phase II complete shortly thereafter.

The next phase of work is being designed and will likely include the replacement of the seating bowl and raising the main pavilion roof. They anticipate this work to begin in 2017.

Future phases of work will include: replacement of the restrooms, concession, and box office buildings in the South Plaza and a new restroom building to be shared with Symphony Woods-Merriweather Park. Additionally, plans for a new office space and warehouse are being developed.

[Read more](#)

Long Meadow Pond I

A project to repair a storm water pond in the vicinity of Open Meadow Way and Meadowsweet Ct. in Columbia is underway. It includes the replacement of the pond's steel outlet structure with a new concrete structure and removal of excess sediment. Portions of the pond were regraded and construction is nearing completion.

Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by the **end of June 2016**. For questions or concerns call **410-313-3440**.

Old Roxbury Rd. Widening Project

Howard County's Department of Public Works held a public meeting on **Tuesday, May 10** to present a preliminary design for the widening of Old Roxbury Rd. between Route 97 and Rivercrest Ct. There was no formal presentation, but proposed concept plans were available and staff members were on hand to explain the plans, answer questions, and gather comments.

If you were unable to attend but would like to view the proposed plans and/or have questions, contact Brandon Love at **410-313-5398** or email blove@howardcountymd.gov.

Excelsior Springs Pond Repair

A project to repair and regrade a detention pond on Pebble Beach Dr. in the vicinity of Excelsior Springs Ct. in Ellicott City is underway and partially funded through a Chesapeake Bay Trust Fund grant. It includes the repair of the pond's steel principal spillway pipe. A portion of the pond will be regraded and converted to a shallow wetland, which will allow the pond to capture stormwater runoff from the Turf Valley Overlook subdivision and provide water quality treatment to stormwater runoff reaching the Little Patuxent River.

Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by **late June 2016**. For questions or concerns call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Rogers Avenue Pond Repair to Begin

A project to repair and regrade a detention pond on Rogers Avenue in the vicinity of Rusty Rim in Ellicott City has begun. The project will include repair of the pond's steel principal spillway pipe. In addition, a portion of the pond will be regraded and will allow the pond to capture storm water runoff from the Ellicott Hills subdivision. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by **early June**. This project is partially funded through the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.

For questions or concerns call **410-313-6445** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Multi-Use Pathway: Phase 2, 3, and 4

As part of the DT Columbia legislation, Howard Hughes is constructing a multi-use pathway from HCGH to Blandair Park (CEPPA 12). The existing pathway will be widened, vegetation will be pruned for security, and lights will be installed to increase visibility. Intersections and crosswalks will be designed to accommodate & mark pedestrian traffic and include appropriate signage. Phase 2 and 4 are under construction. The project is expected to be complete by **Spring 2016**.

Dorsey Run Rd. Improvements

There are two projects coordinated (J4148 Dorsey Run Rd. Extension & W8292 Water Main & Sewer).

Dorsey Run Road Extension (J4148): A project to extend Dorsey Run Road from Rt103 to Rt175 (approx. 3 miles) in 3 Phases (A, B & C). Phase A & C are complete. Phase B is almost complete. Montevideo Rd. was lowered 9ft. at Dorsey Run Rd. and paved for the winter. Curb & gutter is approx. 95% complete. Roads will be open to traffic for during winter. Project is expected to be complete in **June 2016**.

Dorsey Run Rd. Phase B Water Main (W8292): A project to construct 5,500 LF of 12-in water main and relocate of 1,500 LF of sewer within proposed Dorsey Run Rd. from existing Dorsey Run Rd. to Montevideo Rd. This project is complete; however, the contractors anticipate paving to occur in the coming weeks.

Elkridge Pump Station Upgrade

A project to upgrade the water pump station at 6430 Elibank Dr. in Elkridge is currently underway. Electrical, mechanical and structural improvements are being made to the existing pump station, and an emergency generator will be installed. Originally, this project had been delayed, but is very active now. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed mid-August 2016.

The project is not expected to impact the flow of traffic; however signs will be in place to advise residents. For questions, call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Ash Tree Removal

Due to emerald ash borer infestation, DPW has begun removing ash trees along various county-owned roadways throughout Columbia, Ellicott City, Elkridge, Jessup, Laurel and Woodbine. All trees have been removed and crews are working to remove the remaining stumps. DPW anticipates the trees will be replaced, where appropriate, by **June 2016**. The County will not be removing any trees located on private property.

Rt. 175 Ramp Construction

This was an SHA project to relocate the EB Rt.175 approx. 300 ft. to the north. A detour was in place; however, the ramp is **now open**.

In addition, SHA will be eliminating the WB29 to WB175 cloverleaf ramp and replacing it with a new traffic signal on Rt. 175 accessed via NB29 to EB175 ramp. SHA anticipates this project to go out to bid in **Fall 2016**.

Lighting Upgrades along Rt 29

This project will upgrade the existing interchange lighting install new interchange guide signing where appropriate. SHA anticipates **US 29 at Rt108 and Rt 103 at US40** to be completed end of **September 2016**, weather permitting. **US 29 at Rt32 to Rt175** is expected to be completed **February 2018**, weather permitting.

BGE Gas Main

BGE is upgrading a portion of the natural gas system near Columbia with installation of a new, underground natural gas main to reinforce the gas system serving the area.

The gas main will be located along nearly one mile of Old Montgomery Rd. between Route 108 and Route 103 in the road right of way. Work will take place from **8am-4pm Monday-Friday** and will necessitate one lane closure during this period. Traffic will be limited to a single lane and will be controlled by flaggers. Outside of the 8am to 4pm work period, two-way traffic will be restored. BGE does not expect that gas service will be interrupted as a result of this work. If a temporary service interruption is required, you will be notified in advance.

Initial aspects of this project are underway and you may notice work crews on the right of way. All crews will have identification indicating they are BGE's authorized contractor, Willbros Construction. Work is scheduled to be complete during **Fall 2016**.

If you have any questions, contact BGE at BGEPipeline@bge.com or 1-800-685-0123 and reference the Old Montgomery Road Gas Main Reinforcement.

St. Paul Street Water Main Extension to Begin

A construction project to provide improved maintenance and eliminate the shared 1.5-inch water connections for the apartment complex along St. Paul Street in Ellicott City is underway. It includes the installation of approximately 350 linear feet of six-inch diameter PVC water main and five 1.5-inch lateral water connections between the meters and the main water main. The majority of the work will take place along the northbound and southbound lanes of St. Paul Street at New Cut Road and College Avenue. The project is expected to be completed by **late June**.

The impact on residents in the surrounding area is expected to be minimal. Brief traffic delays can be expected Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed, and signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction.

For questions, call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov

Meadowridge Wastewater Pump Station Upgrades

A utility construction project at the Meadowridge wastewater pump station and in the vicinity of Meadowridge Road (Maryland Route 103) and Washington Boulevard (U.S. Route 1) has begun. The construction includes installation of approximately 2,424 linear feet of eight-inch PVC force main along Meadowridge Road and Washington Boulevard. The station's existing pumps will be replaced with dry pit submersible sewerage pumps. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by **late July 2016**.

Lane closures along Route 103 in the evenings **9pm-5am** are possible and when needed will follow a clearly marked detour to Business Parkway. There is a scheduled closure beginning **May 22 through May 25**. In addition, the right lane of southbound Washington Boulevard will be closed as needed during daytime construction hours, Monday through Friday, 9am to 3pm.

For questions or concerns, call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Rt. 29 Widening Project

Phase 1B NB Rt. 29 (Third Ln Widening & Noise Wall Construction) - Under Construction.

Noise walls continue to be constructed along east side of NB Rt. 29 (Seneca Dr. to Rt. 175). the intersection of Shaker/Seneca will be put back to its original configuration within 2 weeks, weather permitting. SHA has completed all caisson drilling as of May 19, 2016. Final finding and resurfacing of US29, including the new third lane from Rt32 to Rt175 is on schedule to begin at the end of September 2016 with completion anticipated by **Winter 2016**.

SHA anticipates landscaping to be completed mostly in **Fall 2016**. Some trees, shrubs, and sod are being placed now in the areas that are substantially complete.

Gales Lane: is still in negotiations with the two remaining property owners.

River's Edge: SHA evaluated several interchange options and after hearing from the community and elected officials, SHA has placed alternatives on their website and sent out a link. SHA will be reevaluating the plan.

Blandair Park Construction

Phase 2 - Construction has begun and will include sidewalk connections, a playground, 2 artificial turf fields, comfort station, pavilion, 5 tennis courts, parking lot, a promenade, a County bus stop and storm water management facilities. The artificial turf fields, and lights are installed. The tennis fields, storm water facilities, pavilion and comfort station are almost

complete.

Rt 175 Interchange - As part of the construction at Blandair Park, the County will construct an interchange directly from Route 175 into the park between Thunder Hill Rd and Tamar Dr. This will reduce traffic coming into Oakland Mills and our local roads.

Phase J - Project to include the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Oakland Mills Rd. & Old Montgomery Rd. and realign Oakland Mills Rd. in Blandair Park. Construction has begun on the road realignment. A portion of Oakland Mills Rd. in Blandair Park has been closed during the realignment reconstruction. Traffic will follow a marked detour. [Click here for a map of the road closures and access points to the park.](#)

Construction has begun. Weather permitting, Recreation & Parks anticipates completion by **September 2017**.

As part of the Blandair project, a bridge over Rt 175 will be built connecting the northern and southern portions of the park. Once that is complete, the entrance to Blandair Park from Sohapp Ln. will be closed, reducing resident concerns.

MD 32 Planning Study

The Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) has undertaken the MD 32 Planning Study, which focuses on MD 32 from I-70 in Howard County to just north of MD 26 (Liberty Rd) in Carroll County. The study will assess the area's transportation needs and develop concepts for short-term improvements, as well as a long-term transportation vision for the MD 32 Corridor. A final report is expected in **Fall 2016**.

Goals of the Study

- To meet the growing and often competing needs along the roadway.
- To incorporate diverse needs into a solution or set of solutions that will guide the roadway to a unified, safe, and appropriate level of improvement.
- Review of properties within the MD 32 corridor to determine whether any are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Develop a long-term vision to manage future traffic volumes, address short-term safety and operational deficiencies along with advancing economic development opportunities.

The study will recommend enhanced transportation network connectivity, assess pedestrian and bicyclist needs, and evaluate ways in which access to homes and businesses is provided. The SHA team will analyze the impacts that those improvements are likely to have on existing development and environmental resources along MD 32 to identify potential areas of conflict between resources.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey by visiting MD32Survey.com.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Falls Run Rd Sidewalk Improvements

A project to connect two portions of existing sidewalk along Falls Run Rd. in the vicinity of Montgomery Run Rd. in Ellicott City is scheduled to begin on or about **Tuesday, May 31**. It will include the installation of approximately 180 linear feet of sidewalk and two new ADA ramps.

Flagging operating will be used to direct traffic as needed as occasional lane shifts are possible. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be complete by mid-June 2016. For questions, call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Furnace Ave. Sewer Project

A project to install a sewer manhole and a storm drain manhole on Furnace Ave. in ElkrIDGE is scheduled to begin on or about **Tuesday, May 31**. Furnace Ave. between Main St. and Railroad Ave. will be closed to thru traffic for the duration of the project. Traffic will follow a clearly marked detour using Main St., US Route 1, Old Washington Rd., Hanover Rd., and Race Rd. Local traffic will be able to access Furnace Ave. but will not be permitted to pass through the excavation site.

Signs will be posted to advise motorists of the construction and detour. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by late June 2016. For questions or concerns, call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Old Montgomery Rd./Tamar Dr. Roundabout

My office requested this project which proposes to install a single-lane roundabout along Old Montgomery Road at Tamar Drive in an effort to address safety concerns at this intersection. In collaboration with our DPW engineers, we will host a public meeting on **Thursday, June 9, 2016 6:30-8:30pm** in the cafeteria at **Jeffers Hill Elementary School, 6001 Tamar Dr.** in Columbia.

While there will be no formal presentation during this meeting, the proposed concept plans will be available to view and staff members will be on hand to explain the proposed plans, answer questions and gather public comments. Those unable to attend but would like to review the proposed plans and/or have questions, please contact **Ms. Yan Zhang** at **410-313-2430** or email y Zhang@howardcountymd.gov.

Rt. 1 at Montevideo Rd.

This project will include the relocation of Montevideo Rd. to align with Port Capital Dr. SHA anticipates this project will likely proceed before the Rt. 1 widening. Designs are complete and we anticipate this project to begin **early June 2016**.

Lynwood Manor Stormwater Quality Improvements to Begin

A project to provide stormwater quality treatment to the detention pond at Avalon Dr. in the vicinity of Sandy Ridge Ct. in Elkridge has been put on hold. The project will involve a retrofit of the pond's principal reinforced concrete spillway structure, creation of a fore bay and improvement to water quality. Weather permitting, the project is expected to **begin in FY17**.

For questions or concerns call **410-313-3440** or email publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Rt. 1 at Kit Kat Rd.

SHA has explored the installation of a traffic signal at Rt. 1 and Kit Kat Rd. This project is currently being designed and SHA anticipates having the project ready for construction to begin in **Spring 2018**. This portion of the project has not been funded for construction, right-of-way, or utility relocations. Additionally, the County has proposed a new capital project estimated to begin **July 1, 2016** to improve Kit Kat Road by widening the paved roadway section and is exploring adding a small shoulder.

I-95 Repaving

I-95 was patched recently. This project will be to repave I-95 from Howard County line to the ICC. SHA anticipates resurfacing to start **mid-Summer 2016** and be complete by end of **November 2016**.

Rt. 103 @ Wesley/Old Stockbridge

My office requested this project of SHA to address traffic concerns. In response to those concerns, SHA is proposing a traffic signal project to include left-turn phasing along EB and WB Rt103, pedestrian control signals, and crosswalk pavement markings along the west leg of Rt103 and Old Stockbridge Dr. SHA has finalized the plats and are awaiting to acquire the properties needed to move to construction.

Rt. 1: Rt. 175 to Montevideo

This is a SHA project to widen Rt. 1 near the Rt. 175 intersection and make other improvements as needed. Currently, SHA and the County are working together to coordinate right-of-way land acquisitions and collaborate on this project. There is no timeline at this time.

Rt. 103 @ Long Gate Pkwy

There are two projects in this corridor: SHA is studying widening Rt. 103 and a property owner has proposed a project next to the YMCA which would allow for 79 townhomes with a max density of 111 townhomes. SHA is working with the property owner to install the missing sidewalk portion and possible installation of a traffic signal.

Road Widening: The Armory has historical significance and when SHA explored the proposed widening, it was determined there was anti-terrorism issues with the loss of frontage to the armory. SHA anticipates the armory will be vacated in **January 2020**. This project has not been funded for construction, right-of-way acquisition, or utility relocations.

Housing Project: School allocations have placed this project on hold. SHA may choose to construct the missing portion of the sidewalk in the interim near the Gatherings; however at this time there is no funding for the project.

Patuxent Branch Trail

This project includes 1.3 miles of existing Patuxent Branch Trail between the trailhead at Old Guilford Rd. and Vollmerhausen Rd. in Savage. A grant was awarded for design and construction (\$1.09M) and we anticipate it will be included as part of the FY17 budget, once approved on **May 26, 2016**. The goal is to upgrade the surface of the currently unpaved portion to bring it up to the same quality as the rest of the trail. This will improve accessibility for wider variety of non-motorized users including: people walking and jogging; people jogging or walking strollers; people in wheelchairs, mobility devices and walking aids; and people on bicycles. Expected construction period is **Spring/Summer 2018**.

Rt. 29 Water Transmission Main

A project to install approx. 1.7 miles of 36" diameter water transmission main in the Columbia area. The contract has been awarded and construction will begin in **late June 2016**, continuing through **Winter 2017**. Affected streets include: South Entrance Rd., SB Little Patuxent Pkwy, South & North entrances of The Mall in Columbia (off Little Patuxent Pkwy), intersection of Wincopin Circle at Little Patuxent Pkwy, Sterrett Pl. at Little Patuxent Pkwy, Governor Warfield Pkwy at Little Patuxent Pkwy, intersection of Columbia Rd. at Little Patuxent Pkwy, and the ramp from Rt. 29 South to SB Little Patuxent Pkwy.

Most of the work is expected to be conducted at night, during weekdays 8pm-6am with the exception of a section located in the SB lanes of Little Patuxent Pkwy, from Governor Warfield Pkwy to South Entrance Rd. which will be closed to traffic for approx. 90 days during **early 2017**. The County will be working closely with businesses, residents and regulatory agencies during this time to minimize disruptions to traffic and the environment. For questions, contact Paul Di Marco at **410-313-6126** or email pdimarco@howardcountymd.gov.

North Laurel Connections

The purpose of this project is to link Savage Park to the North Laurel Community Center and continuing to the Laurel MARC Stations; potentially including a shared use pathway to improve access and connections across an existing utility right of way. A second open house is being planned and will likely be held during **Summer 2016**. For more details, contact **David Cookson** at **410-313-3130** or dcookson@howardcountymd.gov

Thank You for Following Along!

I hope you have found this information useful. If there are any projects you would like to see

included within this newsletter, please email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov.

All the best,



Dr. Calvin Ball
Chairperson, District 2
Howard County Council

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

~Margaret Mead

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STAY CONNECTED

